

July 31, 2008

### **STARS Portfolio Ratings**

The first round of Mathematics portfolio appeals has nearly been completed. Districts will be able to see their ratings during the August 18 – 29 Preview on the Nebraska-led Peer Review of STARS (NLPRS) link in the Portal. If a district was not contacted by the staff from the Assessment Office regarding the materials submitted, the documentation is complete.

A second round of appeals will occur in October and these ratings will be posted during the Preview window in November 25 - December 5.

### **Statewide Writing Assessment**

The results of the 2008 Statewide Writing Assessment will be released to the public on Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Districts will have access to their results on August 18, 2008. Please watch for the announcement and instructions from Pat Roschewski.

### **NSSRS**

Updated 2008-2009 NSSRS template instruction manuals are now available on the NSSRS Documents web page (<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/Documents.htm>). Please refer to the "Change Summary" in Appendix A of each manual for an itemized list of changes. The updated manual for Post School Survey will be posted soon.

- Student
- Staff
- Assessment
- Title I Programs
- Programs Fact
- Special Education Snapshot

One change that requires particular attention is the Special Education Snapshot template that will be used to replace the existing Special Education Special Education System (SE SIS) this fall. Previously, it was the Special Education Fact template that was to serve this purpose. Please refer to the Special Education Snapshot template instruction manual for details regarding this required change.

Other items updated for the 2008-2009 school year include:

- NSSRS 2008-2009 NSSRS Template Calendar on the NSSRS Calendar web page (<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/Calendar.htm>).
- eScholar Data Source Templates (Version 10.0), highlighted for use in Nebraska, on the NSSRS Secured Information website accessed via the NDE Portal.

**NCLB**

The final allocations for the NCLB formula programs in the Consolidated Application have been posted to the Federal Programs webpage at:

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/federalprograms/index.htm>